OUR GRAND MASTER'S SLOGAN
"A REVITALIZED AND GREATER TEMPLARY"

THE TEMPLAR

A FRIENDLY VOICE OF TEMPLAR INTEREST TO KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Official publication of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island

GEORGE A. WEEKS, *Grand Recorder* ELLIOTT N. HOLLEY, *Grand Commander*

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EMINENT SIRS AND SIR KNIGHTS:

Having just passed our Day of Thanksgiving when we have all given thanks for our blessings, - our American way of life - with our freedoms from slavery, tyranny and oppression, let us turn to our greatest freedom, that of worshipping God and the birth of Christ. On Christmas Day, your Asylums should be opened for all Sir Knights to meet and pay honor to the Great Captain of our Salvation.

Plans are now being made for a joint Conclave to be held in Boston on January 16th to exemplify the Order of Red Cross and the Order of Malta in full form and costume by Boston Commandery #1 and De Molay Commandery #7. I urge all Commanderies to make a special effort to obtain candidates and bring them into this Conclave. There will be further details forwarded to you presently.

I am most pleased to announce that we have made a good beginning candidate-wise towards our goal of 1,000 new members. To date we have a total of 221 petitions, which is most encouraging. Please keep up the good work.

Our inspections for the current year are well underway and those thus far held have been notable for the exceptional fine work and for the good attendance of the members, plus the large suites of the Inspecting Officers.

On Saturday, November 28th, my own Commandery, DeMolay #7, Sir Knight Malcolm B. Reed, Commander, tendered a reception in my honor at the Dorothy Quincy Suite in Boston, which was attended by approximately 300 Sir Knights and their Ladies. It was an evening I shall remember as long as I live. I am grateful indeed to the Past Commanders, Officers and Sir Knights of DeMolay Commandery to whom I am so deeply indebted; to the Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers, Commanders, Sir Knights and their Ladies of this Grand Jurisdiction and to our Grand Master and the heads of the Collateral Bodies who also honored me through their attendance and whose presence added so much to the occasion.

Sir Knights, Templary is, and it will be, what you and I make it -- no less and no more. If it is to go forward we must be living examples of the great principles taught in the Orders of Knighthood.

To all Sir Knights and their loved ones - a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Courteously yours,

ELLIOTT N. HOLLEY, Grand Commander.

Your Grand Recorder has just returned from Chicago where he attended a Conference called by Sir Knight Louis H. Wieber, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of K.T. of the U.S.A. There were in attendance 28 of the leading Past Grand Commanders who are ardent workers for Templary, consisting of the Grand Encampment Officers, Department Commanders and all Chairmen of standing and special committees of Grand Encampment.

Urgent business of the Grand Encampment was discussed and much valuable information was contained in the reports submitted by the various Committees. One of the problems of great concern is membership, demits and suspensions - there seems to be a falling off of new members in all Jurisdictions.

Following are some figures as reported by Sir Kt. John Temple Rice Grand Recorder; with two Subordinate Commandery reports missing for the year ending July 1, 1959. The reports showed the smallest net gain in ten years. The total net gain was 2,882 Sir Knights. Grand Commanderies showed a net gain of 2,776 -- Subordinate Commanderies a gain of 106. Our Total Membership July 1, 1959 was 396,218. The highest membership ever attained was in 1928, with a total of 453,836 -- the lowest in 1943, with only 289,368. 1943 was the turning point upward. Since then we have steadily showed a net gain. The 1959 figures are the nearest approach to the all-time high. (The M.E. would like to see us reach 400,000 during this Triennium.)

The Grand Master is much disturbed over the following:

Suspensions last year		-	5,519
Demits	" "	-	3,540
			9,059
Deaths	" "	-	8,656

EXCERPTS from a message written by R.E. Sir Wilber M. Brucker, Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Encampment and Secretary of the Army:

Templary particularly needs to give immediate thought to strengthening our ranks. This job is one requiring urgent action at the local Commandery level. While there should be no public membership campaign as such, Templary should, with all propriety, organize and procedd at once with maximum effort to bring into our fold thousands of dedicated Master Masons in every local community throughout the land. Each Sir Knight should quietly and constantly keep his eyes open for top quality Masons to be invited to take this important forward step. The process should be highly selective and the invitation should be exclusively personal.

Templar Masonry has an impressive role in modern society that can be discharged only by having great numbers of dedicated Sir Knights in our ranks. We cannot afford to accept the status quo. We are expected to wage the kind of a crusade that requires devotion to duty by great hosts of top level men. To accomplish this, we must arouse every last Templar to his sense of personal responsibility to the Christian Cause. Only by exerting ourselves and attracting large numbers of good men to our Cause can we build more strongly the structure of Templary and be worthy of the day in which we live. In every aspect of our lives we must again raise high the standard of the Cross. In this sign we shall conquer.

There was much discussion regarding making the Council prerequisite. The concensus is not too favorable.

The 1961 Triennial Conclave will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, August 12 to 18 inclusive. Full details will be published when available. Start making your plans now!

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Chairman of this Committee reported that last year ending December 31, 1959 we had the greatest number of loans ever made - the total was 2,303. As of June 30 this year, the total loans amounted to 962. Pennsylvania leads with 291 loans. Massachusetts has been pushed from 3rd place to 6th place, with 44 loans; ("wake up Massachusetts and Rhode Island!") but to date we have processed 102 with several pending. "The K.T. Educational Foundation is a Sacred Trust handed down to us in 1922 and it is up to us to carry out the ideals established by our early leaders."

EXCERPT from a student's letter:

"I wish to express my gratitude for the assistance rendered me initially and for your patience with my repayment progress. Times have been difficult over the past 5 years and you have been generous in the extreme concerning payment. It is my wish that at some time in the future I might be able to contribute towards your Foundation in some small way, that your program of assistance to college students may continue and be expanded. I am enclosing my check as a token of desires in this direction and I hope I may be in a position to add to it in the future."

K.T. EYE FOUNDATION

M.E. Sir Walter A. DeLamater rendered a lengthy detailed report substantiated by a printed booklet containing his Annual Report with all receipts and expenditures in detail. Also, a new Brochure. He stated that more than $450,000. had been allotted in grants for research. (The Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary has received $32,500.) He received personal bequests to this Foundation amounting to over $18,200. He has had over $70,000. in voluntary contributions during the past three years. Massachusetts and Rhode Island have done their share but are lagging in cases submitted for treatment. He stated that out of 906 cases processed, Massachusetts and Rhode Island have had only 13 cases. One year ago, every Commandery in Massachusetts and Rhode Island was requested to appoint an Eye Foundation Committee; to date, only 25 Commanderies have sent in their Committees to Grand Commandery office.

Everyone who is now familiar with our activity speaks highly of it. Regardless of what anyone else thinks of it, we know in our own hearts that the K.T. Eye Foundation is doing a great humanitarian work.

This is a partial report of the business completed during the two and one-half day conference.

George A. Weeks, Grand Recorder

THE GOURGAS MEDAL

Secretary of State Christian A. Herter has been awarded the rare and valuable Gourgas Medal by the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

In announcing the award, Grand Commander Bushnell declared: "We know of no better way to express our appreciation for the contribution of Ill. Brother Herter to world peace, and his earlier services as Congressman and Governor of Massachusetts, than by conferring upon him the Gourgas Medal, possessed by only six men now living."

Ill. Brother Herter received his Symbolic Degress in 1932. He is a member of St. Bernard Commandery #12 Knights Templar, Boston. He received the 32° in 1939 and was created an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council in 1953.

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After considerable catch-up reading, we came upon an intriguing article in the Cathedral News of Bloomington, Illinois, entitled

WORDS

It follows: "They are inviting and sometimes it is astonishing what they will do. How about this little information? The Gettysburg Address contains 266 words; the Ten Commandments, 297 words; Declaration of Independence, 300 words; O P S order to reduce the price of cabbage contains 26,911 words. But it takes only four words to say and implore,

"Brother, Get A Petition".

We like the PUNCH in the above, even though it sneaks up on you like a Television Commercial.

Our records of membership show that you appreciate the advantages offered by York Rite. A continuous period of growth from 1945, to and including 1959, shows this to be true. We hope and can see no reason why this pattern should change. To do this we look to our Enthusiastic Members to carry the message of York Rite to their Master Mason Friends who are waiting for MORE LIGHT but are too shy to seek admission to our midst without a warm-hearted invitation. This you can give, and our faith tells us that you will do your utmost to make our 1960 year outstanding.

Our Grand Commandery has a quota of 1000 Petitions. Your Commandery has a quota. It is based on membership. It is reasonable and attainable Answer the call of the Grand Commander. Consider your quota as a challenge - as a goal to be reached. When you get a petition for membership for affiliation or for reinstatement, you are working to build your own Commandery, Grand Commandery and Grand Encampment. In short, you are helping to build "A Revitalized and Greater Templary."

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This Christmas as we worship and rejoice in celebrating the Nativity of the Prince of Peace, let us ever be mindful of the spiritual meaning of this great day and to live by and defend the teachings of Christ. Let us as K.T. again reaffirm our faith in God and give thanks to Him for our countless blessings. As a nation of free people, let us pray for the less fortunate, who are fettered by fear and ignorance - for the sick and those in sorrow, that they may find new hope and happiness. Let us continue to pray for the unity of all nations.

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Name of Commandery	Quota	2 Mos.	Nov.	Total
St. John's	40	0	0	0
Boston	75	9	2	11
Newburyport	20	5	2	7
Washington	7	0	0	0
Worcester County	48	2	0	2
Springfield	34	10	0	10
De Molay	54	10	0	10
Holy Sepulchre	23	3	10	13
Pilgrim	19	23	1	24
Palestine	14	0	1	1
Milford	11	1	1	2
St. Bernard	6	2	0	2
Calvary	41	2	0	2
Haverhill	26	1	0	1
Old Colony	14	5	0	5
Sutton	37	1	3	4
Bethany	10	0	0	0
Winslow Lewis	14	1	1	2
Jerusalem	20	3	0	3
Hugh de Payens	39	2	2	4
St. Omer	20	0	4	4
Berkshire	18	7	3	10
Connecticut Valley	9	0	1	1
Woonsocket	11	0	0	0
Godfrey de Bouillon	8	5	1	6
Joseph Warren	11	2	1	3
Narragansett	13	0	2	2
Bristol	17	5	1	6
Northampton	8	0	0	0
South Shore	11	1	0	1
Trinity	12	7	1	8
Natick	18	15	2	17
Coeur de Lion	25	4	0	4
Gethsemane	22	1	5	6
Olivet	30	2	0	2
Athol	9	1	0	1
Bay State	25	4	3	7
Cyprus	11	5	0	5
St. Paul	7	0	0	0
Beauseant	22	2	0	2
Cambridge	9	3	0	3
Bethlehem	11	2	0	2
Orange	5	2	1	3
Ivanhoe	17	6	0	6
Quincy	20	3	0	3
Temple	13	3	1	4
St. Andrew	11	2	1	3
Reading	21	6	3	9
Thomas Smith Webb	13	0	0	0
Sir Galahad	11	0	0	0
TOTALS	1000	168	53	221

1959-60 MONTHLY OBJECTIVE NECESSARY TO REACH QUOTA

	OBJ.	ACT.
Sept.	55	44
Oct.	120	124
Nov.	96	53
Dec.	88	
Jan.	103	
Feb.	138	
Mar.	110	
Apr.	126	
May	104	
June	60	

ACCUMULATIVE

	OBJ.	ACT.
Sept.	55	44
Oct.	175	168
Nov.	271	221
Dec.	359	
Jan.	462	
Feb.	600	
Mar.	710	
Apr.	836	
May	940	
June	1000	

COMPARISON

	1960	1959	1958	1957
Sept.	44	19	45	53
Oct.	168	96	140	185
Nov.	221	141	221	241
Dec.		225	269	312
Jan.		293	349	409
Feb.		419	430	520
Mar.		495	511	616
Apr.		619	613	707
May		688	693	772
June		768	744	832

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Sir Knights:

Although the number of petitions recorded in November did not compare favorably with our quota, we are still ahead of last year, and still have a good opportunity to make the current year an outstanding one. "To sell, you must first be sold." If you believe in Templary, you can and should work for it, talk about it, and by your sincerity and enthusiasm persuade others to join with you to preserve and build our great Christian Order.

J. Leroy Jones, Director
Membership Progress & Publicity